COMMANDERS DIGEST

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U.S., Japan Sign Atomic Agreement

The United States and Japan signed a new Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, Feb. 26, at a Department of State ceremony.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Atomic Energy Chairman Glenn Seaborg signed for the U.S. and Ambassador Takeso Shimoda signed for Japan.

State Department said: This Agreement, which is for a period of 30 years, continues cooperation in the peaceful development of atomic energy begun with Japan in 1955. The Agreement provides for the supply of enriched uranium from the U.S. to fuel 13 large nuclear power reactors to be built in Japan. This Agreement also provides authorization for the transfer by the AEC of up to 365 kilograms of plutonium for use by the Japanese in their peaceful research and development program. In keeping with the long-standing policy of both countries, the International Atomic Energy Agency will continue to administer safeguards under the new Agreement. The Agreement will now be submitted to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy of the Congress where it must lie for a period of 30 days before becoming effective.

In signing the Agreement, Secretary Rusk and Chairman Seaborg hailed it as further evidence of the determination of the two countries to use atomic energy for the benefit of their peoples and as an indication of the spectacular growth of Japanese industrial and technical capabilities.

SECRETARY CLIFFORD TAKES OATH—Chief Justice Earl Warren administers the oath of office to Secretary of Defense-designate Clark M. Clifford as Mrs. Clifford and President Lyndon B. Johnson look on. The ceremony took place in the East Room, The White House, March 1.

R&D Experts Strive to Aid War Effort

Detection, precise location and quick destruction of enemy units in Vietnam are the most pressing problems facing the Department of Defense's research and development experts in their support of the war in Southeast Asia.

Director of Defense Research and Engineering Dr. John S. Foster Jr., in testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee, stated these three problem areas are the common denominator in three of the four major efforts by U.S. forces in Vietnam—counter-infiltration, destruction of Viet Cong and North Vietnamese main battle units and interdiction operations over North Vietnam.

Even in the fourth major area of U.S. operation — pacification — these are problems which must be dealt with, for DOD's primary contributions to this effort are the isolation of the Viet Cong from the civilian populace, the providing of security from both Viet Cong and North Vietnamese main forces, and providing the people with increased security from the VC terrorist and guerrilla forces.

To provide the necessary R&D support for U.S. operations in Vietnam, the Defense Department has requested an initial FY69 budget of $522 million, but Dr. Foster told the Senate Armed Services Committee that an estimated $800 million may be required "to meet the special needs that probably will arise."

Outlining future R&D programs for

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R&D Experts

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the committee, Dr. Foster summarized the directions he expects these programs to take in the four major areas of U.S. operations in Vietnam.

Counter-Infiltration

1—Vigorous work on technology to allow the U.S. to find the enemy and determine his pattern of operation in jungle and other difficult terrain.

2—Improvements in U.S. ordnance delivery capability so that American forces can hit targets accurately and decisively.

3—Development of counter-infiltration techniques and border security systems which can be effective in both peacetime and/or limited war environments.

Neutralization of Main Force-Type Units

1—Vast improvements in target acquisition and accurate and discriminating weapons.

2—Imaginative engineering support to reduce time and manpower requirements for construction of small camps and military bases, jungle clearing, and construction of defensive positions in hostile environments.

Interdiction Operations

1—Improved target acquisition capability for night and all-weather attack.

2—"Real time" reconnaissance methods.

3—Quick reaction electronic warfare and electronic counter-measure programs.

4—Improved search and rescue in hostile environments.

Pacification

1—Vigorous effort on village and hamlet security and reliable communications.

2—Coordinated programs with AID, the State Department, DOD and other agencies in areas where R&D can play a role such as identification, intelligence, interrogation, and the application of defense technology to the nation-building process.

BRITISH LECTURER—Lt. Gen. Sir George Lea, Defense and Military Attache in the British Embassy in Washington, D. C., arrives at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., to present a lecture to the Class of 1968 at Air University's Air War College. He is greeted by Lt. Gen. John W. Carpenter, III, commander of Air University, and Maj. Gen. Jack N. Donohew (right), commandant of Air War College.

Counter-infiltration methods, Dr. Foster said, are necessary because it is estimated that enemy military forces have been infiltrating South Vietnam "at an average level of 6,000 per month."

"Materiel requirements for these forces, and for the VC indigenous to SVN, are estimated to be about 300 tons per day, including food, weapons, medicines and ammunition. About one third of this must be supplied from outside SVN. While we don't know precisely the quantities of materiel actually supplied, the enemy's logistic system is capable of supplying perhaps 10 times more than these minimum requirements."

To minimize U.S. casualties while inflicting maximum destruction on enemy main force units, Dr. Foster said, the U.S. must "rapidly gain firepower superiority."

"Today we are willing to expend large amounts of ordnance to overwhelm the enemy. Because of an inability to locate the enemy precisely, this is an inefficient operation.

"As we improve our detection and localization capability, the improved firepower of new helicopters and better munitions will help save lives and reduce costs."

Dr. Foster told the committee that the U.S. "must detect artillery, mortars and rockets (some mobile, some dug-in) and then direct a killing fire" if the U.S. is to effectively defend its main military and logistic bases and outposts, especially those close to the demilitarized zone.

A major problem in the air war over North Vietnam is the need for improved search and rescue operations. "I am concerned that our recovery rate of those rescueable aircrewman has decreased." In addition to new rescue vehicles, "we must . . . assure that an airman can eject from a damaged aircraft and get safely to the ground. Then we must be able to locate and pick him up quickly."

The Defense Department, Dr. Foster added, is studying and experimenting with more advanced rescue concepts such as mid-air snatch of pilots who have ejected and better location and communication equipment for downed airmen.

Navy Seeks Funds For 594 Aircraft In Budget Request

Vice Admiral Thomas F. Connolly told the Senate Armed Services Committee Feb. 29 that the Navy's Fiscal Year 1969 request of $3.8 billion for aircraft, missile and supporting procurement includes $1.8 billion to procure 594 combat aircraft.

Included are: Attack A-6A Intruder and A-7E Corsair II; Reconnaissance RA-5C Vigilante and RF-4B Phantom II; ASW Patrol P-3C Orion; Fighter F-4J Phantom II and F-111B; Helicopter CH-46D Sea Knight, CH-53A Sea Stallion and AH-1J Cobra.

The Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air) said a new addition to the inventory is the AH-1J Huey Cobra, an armed helicopter designed specifically as a weapons platform. It will be used by Marine observation squadrons in Southeast Asia in helicopter escort missions and to provide close-in landing zone suppressive fire.

The admiral explained that the FY69 Aircraft Procurement Program of 720 aircraft provides for the transition of certain combat units to more modern aircraft and for the replacement of project combat and operational losses.

Funds are also being requested for airlift and trainer aircraft.

Navy's FY69 Missile Program request provides for the initial procurement of the Fleet Ballistic Missile Poseidon, follow-on for Polaris, and the continued procurement of guided missiles, both air and ship launched.

Admiral Connolly told the committee that approval of the FY69 request will permit the Navy to procure new aircraft and missiles and will finance the related programs of modification, spare parts, and support equipment and facilities.

Aircraft and missile supporting programs have a significant impact on the Navy's combat capability, the admiral said.

CONGRATULATIONS—General Lyman L. Lemnitzer, Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) congratulates Sergeant Major Cecil C. Hull upon being the first appointee in the entire Allied Command Europe as a Command Sergeant Major. SMG Hull is receiving the certificate of his new assignment.

Army Uses New Computerized System To Study Vietnam Equipment, Ammo Loss

The Army is currently using a new computerized system to study the loss of equipment and ammunition in Vietnam.

Begun last spring, the "COLED-V" (Combat Loss and Expenditure Data-Vietnam) project is designed to keep an accurate account of materiel records in connection with combat operations.

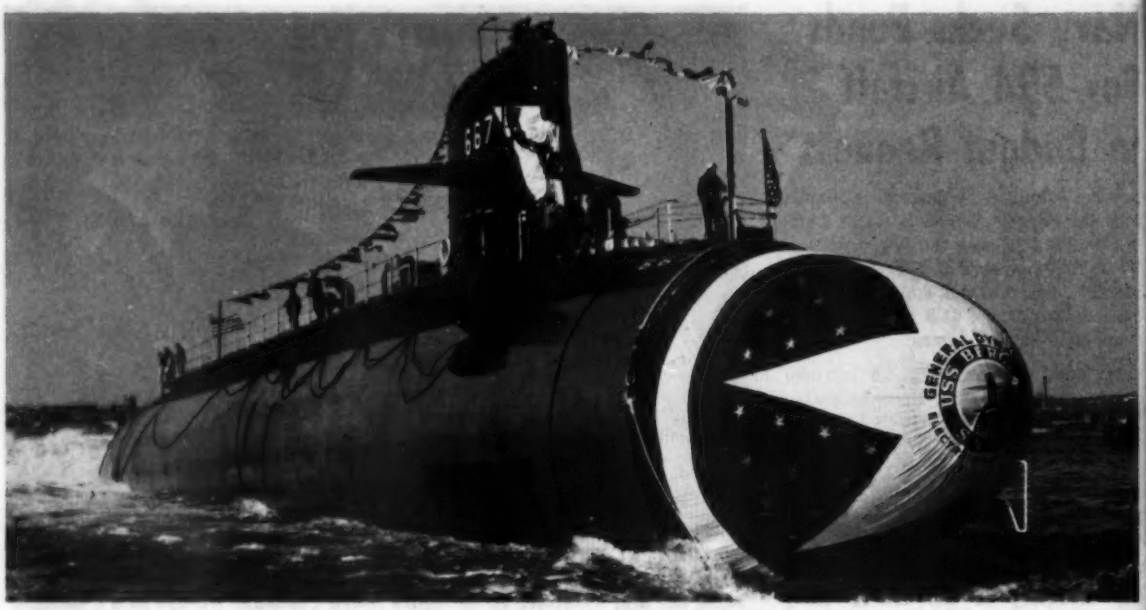
Under the auspices of the Army's Combat Developments Comand at Ft. Belvoir, Va., the project calls for field commanders to use existing forms and newly designed data processing cards to record loss of equipment or use of ammunition so that such information can be continually tabulated and analyzed.

Using the data collected from the field, computers correlate loss of equipment and expenditure of ammunition with the types of warfare and intensity of combat experienced at the time.

Ammunition losses, whether intentionally disposed of by ordnance experts, destroyed by the enemy or expended in action, are carefully recorded. Equipment losses are noted by cause (combat and non-combat), by mission and by intensity of combat. The unit, time and place of the loss are included on the data cards.

The reports are programmed and fed into computers, providing the Army with a data bank of information that can be used to form predictive type loss and expenditure rate systems when compared with the different types of warfare experienced in Vietnam.

A test program, which began in April-June 1967, led to the current study. The first full year of data collection began last July and is scheduled to continue until the end of June 1968. Should results of the project prove to be effective use to the Army, it is anticipated the new system will be continued into a second year.



MAIDEN DIP—The Navy's 74th nuclear powered submarine, the USS Bergall, *slides into the Thames River after launching Feb. 17 at the Electric Boat division of General Dynamics in Groton, Conn. Sister ship of* Bergall, *launched from same ways 24 years ago, sank or damaged nearly 100,000 tons of enemy ships during World War II.*

Veterans' Benefits Are Reemphasized

The Department of Defense has reemphasized that veterans interested in graduate or professional training have the same educational and financial benefits now available to undergraduates.

It was pointed out that opportunities for graduate education are greater this year than in previous years for qualified individuals.

Officials said that within certain limits, individuals may choose any approved program of education to reach an educational, professional or vocational goal.

They said personnel scheduled for release from active duty between now and beginning of the Fall term in September should take advantage of this advanced educational opportunity.

Allowances can be as much as $155 monthly for the veteran with one dependent participating in a full-time program.

Veterans discharged or released from active duty under conditions other than dishonorable are entitled to one month of educational benefits for each month or fraction of a month of creditable active duty after Jan. 31, 1955. The maximum period of entitlement may not exceed 36 months. A veteran has up to eight years after last discharge or after June 1, 1966, if discharged prior to that date, to complete a planned program.

Additional information may be obtained at local education offices.

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Army Defers Expansion Of National Cemeteries

Department of the Army has deferred expansion plans for five national cemeteries, until recommendations of the U.S. Veterans Advisory Commission have been reviewed and analyzed.

A detailed review of national cemetery policies and plans is under way.

The Commission, appointed by the President, has completed a year's study and is considering a more comprehensive approach to the national cemetery program.

Last year, the Department of Defense requested funds for the acquisition and development of land adjacent to the five cemeteries to insure availability of graves for casualties of the Vietnam war. Since that time administrative and engineering measures have resulted in making gravesites available to meet Vietnam needs at virtually all national cemeteries, including the five mentioned for expansion.

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